



CHRISTINE CHO / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PICKETING | Former employees of Saigon Grill protest the restaurant's labor practices and working conditions on Wednesday.

Workers protest labor practices at restaurant on 90th

BY CHELSEA LO
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

When waiter Jerry Weng was fired after two days on the job at Saigon Grill, he knew that the new ownership would be no better than the last, he said.

"The new owner is following the old labor practices. He tried to go back to the old ways to make money by cutting hours and wages," Weng said.

Saigon Grill has been the object of protest from workers

groups since 2007, when employees at the Vietnamese restaurant on 90th Street and Amsterdam Avenue claimed that former owner Simon Ngwet was stealing tips from delivery workers, discriminating against workers, and failing to pay workers minimum wage. After gaining local support, workers won a lawsuit that eventually led to Ngwet's arrest this past January.

Now, after new owners took over last October, some

employees and protesters say the cycle has started over again.

Josephine Lee, an organizer with the Justice Will be Served campaign, spoke at a meeting Thursday night about her coalition's efforts to end what she described as sweatshop conditions on the Upper West Side.

"The owner made a pledge to be a sweatshop-free business, that is how he was able to get a lease, get a liquor license," Lee said. "But since he took over, he's done differently."

Weng agreed. He says he was fired along with about 10 other workers after speaking up for older colleagues who were being discriminated against. Other workers were fired after trying to form a union, he said.

"The past three years, workers have improved working conditions, but now he's trying to undermine what we've done," Weng said of the new ownership.

SEE SAIGON, page 2

Music prof remembered as inspirational conductor

BY SONALEE RAU
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The people close to conductor and Music Humanities professor Johannes Somary said they will continue to hear his music long after his passing.

Somary died at his home in the Bronx on Feb. 1 at the age of 75.

Susan Boynton, chair of the music department, was one of Somary's students at the Horace Mann School in New York where he taught Advanced Placement Music Theory for over 40 years and helped him get a job at her department in 2009.

"I'm the chair of Music Hum, so I read all the course evaluations, and the students just loved him, raved about him," Boynton said, adding that many wrote that "he was the best professor they'd encountered at Columbia."

Somary's students at Columbia said his enthusiasm and vivacity were unparalleled.

"He walked up to every Music Humanities class on the 7th floor of Hamilton. We [the students] would come in panting or would take the elevator, but he was always so composed," Emily Steinberger, CC '10, said. "He loved life and tried to transmit his joie de vivre to his students."

After Somary suffered a stroke last December, his family set up a CaringBridge website for friends to send him good wishes. Today, the website has over 30,000 hits on it from friends, musicians that he taught or performed with around the world, and students, according to his son Stephen Somary.

"This overwhelming outpouring of emotion for this man, the scope of how many people he touched ... it was quite overwhelming," Stephen said.

Boynton described attending a rehearsal last November for a

concert conducted by Somary—it included one of her favorite compositions, Carissimi's oratorio, Jephthe, to which Somary introduced her when she was his student.

"Hearing him rehearse was like old times. What I saw in his conducting in November was no different from what I had seen in his conducting 30 years ago," Boynton said.

Boynton said the piece still connects her to Somary.

"I now teach it to my students at Columbia. The way I teach is in some way inspired by his teaching," she said.

Stephen said he grew up on his father's music, attending concerts with him from a very young age. He said he will always remember "feeling the intensity of the music that he made, and the intensity of the audience just ... enraptured, and the explosions of applause at the end."

Although Somary, the founder and artistic director of Amor Artis, an all-professional chorale with orchestral accompaniment, was interested in music that spanned genres and periods, "the work most dear to his heart was by Franz Joseph Haydn, a large choral oratorio called 'The Creation,'" Stephen said. "That was the seminal work for him ... [upon] which he really based his spirituality. It's the story of the creation of the world and the very beginning of Genesis."

Stephen added that his father greatly valued the last two years of his life spent teaching at Columbia.

"His last years at Columbia were very meaningful for him," Stephen said. "He was a great father to my brother and sister and I, but ... he was really a father figure for hundreds and hundreds of people."

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New director for CUArts coming soon, SoA says

BY CAITLIN BROWN
Columbia Daily Spectator

More than four months after Gregory Mosher stepped down as director of Columbia's Arts Initiative, the University says they are close to hiring a replacement.

Carol Becker, Dean of the School of the Arts, said that the hiring process is "almost complete."

"We are consulting with the President's Office and with others about the position and the opportunity it presents for the university community and for the arts at Columbia," Becker said in an e-mail. "This is an essential step when there is a vacancy at this level."

University President Lee Bollinger established the Arts Initiative in 2004 as a multifaceted initiative that includes student and alumni programs aimed at providing affordable and exclusive access to arts and culture events around the city. Last year the program was moved from under the jurisdiction of the Office of the President to the School of the Arts, where Becker oversees funding and programming.

"It is premature to discuss a new director, but we will communicate a plan soon," University spokesman Robert Hornsby wrote in a statement.

Mosher stepped down in October to focus on his directorial work on Broadway. In 2010 he directed "A View from the Bridge," a production that earned lead actress Scarlett Johansson a Tony Award and made Mosher a celebrity in the arts world.

Last year the Arts Initiative took a 33 percent budget cut, and though it has not taken

additional cuts this year, the program continues to function with a reduced full-time staff and has had to stop funding some programs.

Becker said the budget cuts have not substantially affected the initiative's operations.

"The budget cuts primarily affected the fees paid to outside vendors and consultants for design of all published material and branding and for website development," Becker said.

But one effect of the budget cuts was that the full-time staff of the Arts Initiative was cut from eight to four, which Mosher said worried him.

"Maintaining the Arts Initiative programs and services will be difficult without these positions being filled," Mosher said in an e-mail. "Providing even more service to the CU community is of course highly unlikely."

The Arts Initiative is now back up to five full-time employees, and its business manager, Abigail Santner, said that they will soon hire a sixth. One support staff position was eliminated entirely, Becker said.

Because of the reduced number of employees, they "rely heavily" on student and recent graduate workers to "fill in the gaps," Santner said in an e-mail.

Santner noted that some program funding has been cut. She said that the Arts Global Program, which had funded global arts exchanges and events, "is, sadly, no longer in our budget," and that a concert in Beijing in conjunction with the Weatherhead East Asian Institute has been eliminated due to decreased funding. She added that the Arts Initiative

SEE CUARTS, page 2

Violations in Floridita may lead to fine for firm

Final decision for architecture firm to be made May 12

ABBY MITCHELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

An architecture firm may face a fine for building code violations in the future home of Manhattanville's Floridita restaurant.

A city inspector found in November that certain areas of the 12th Avenue building, currently home to Dinosaur Bar-B-Que, had no fireproofing and had missing or falling ceiling paneling.

On Thursday morning, Midtown Properties, the firm that manages the Columbia-controlled building, faced a city hearing for failure to maintain the property. The Environmental Control Board judge presiding said the firm could face a \$500 fine along with the mandatory completion of repairs, but the final decision was delayed until May 12.

Marin Nanca Architects completed renovations on the building in 2009, along with several other construction jobs for Dinosaur Bar-B-Que in the past year. At the hearing, they denied the allegations and claimed that because Floridita's area of the building is unoccupied, they hold no responsibility for it.

The architecture firm said that the certificate of occupancy only requires that the space occupied by Dinosaur Bar-B-Que get fireproofing.

"When the building is fully occupied, it [the fireproofing] will be 100 percent completed," said the Marin Nanca representative.

But a lawyer for the city Department of Buildings, Narisa Sasitorn, disagreed during the hearing.

"You still need to have fire rating material," she said. "It can't be left like this."

Sasitorn asked to adjourn the case until the officer who filed the complaint could appear before the judge. Since the DOB inspector's report did not specify

exact locations for the missing fireproofing, Sasitorn said she had no way to know on which side of the building the infractions were found.

"The best thing for us is to have him come in," Sasitorn said of the inspector.

Marisa Senigo, Director of Public Affairs and Communications at the Environmental Control Board, said that the adjournment of a hearing is a common occurrence for the ECB.

"He [the reporting officer] can provide a better account of what he saw and what happened," Senigo said. "Obviously, we want everyone to have a fair opportunity and fair hearing."

Dinosaur Bar-B-Que could not be reached for comment on Thursday.

Ramon Diaz, owner of Floridita and leaser of the adjoining, unoccupied space, said that this is another case in which the University and its contractors failed to deal properly with the results of renovations completed before he signed his lease last May.

"Marin Nanca is on the line for this issue," Diaz said. "They will try and manipulate the representations to DOB."

This isn't the only problem Diaz has had with the building. He recently filed a legal complaint against the University for not properly dealing with asbestos revealed by previous renovations—allegations unrelated to Thursday's hearing.

The University declined to comment on the hearing, but, in a statement issued last week about the asbestos complaint, La-Verna Fountain, Columbia's associate vice president for Construction Business Services and Communications, said that Diaz had accepted the property in "as-is" condition.

"Consistent with the obligations of Mr. Diaz's lease, as well as any lease, the tenant has obligations," Fountain said.

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ROCKIN' IN LERNER



MARIA CASTEX / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PARTY TIME | Student groups brought down the house in Lerner last night, Feb. 10, for this year's Glass House Rocks.

OPINION, PAGE 4

Columbia the mighty

Floridita has been wronged by Columbia's Manhattanville expansion.

Living outside the box

Nancy Workman shows how Lit Hum has helped her recover from cancer.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Lions hope to get season back on track

After seriously damaging their chances of an Ivy championship last week, the Light Blue hope to pull out back to back upsets against Princeton and Penn this weekend at home.

EVENTS

Howl: A reading and discussion

Celebrate Beat's prodigal sons.

Third floor of the J-School, 3 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



34°/26°

Tomorrow



41°/28°

Employees at Saigon Grill say they are underpaid, overworked

SAIGON from front page

In response, workers and neighborhood supporters have been picketing in front of the restaurant since late November to encourage locals to boycott Saigon Grill. But Lee said the protests are meant to be part of a greater battle.

“We want to use this as a starting point to build a larger movement in the Upper West Side,” she said. “Because if it’s just about seven measly jobs, it’s not really worth it to picket five days a week, mornings and evenings, in the cold.”

Saigon Grill’s new owners tell a different story. An assistant manager, who would identify himself only as Rui, said that the protestors have a problem with the old management and don’t realize that things have changed.

Rui admitted that employees had been underpaid years ago. “That situation was true with the old man,” he said.

But he said that the restaurant’s staff hasn’t changed at all since October, so any workers protesting are just bitter from not being hired back.

“They’re bringing up lies—since they can’t be hired here, they’re making up stories so customers won’t come,” Rui said.

The protestors believe that the restaurant’s record of discrimination hasn’t changed. And though the picket line has been endorsed by the local Democratic Party, workers groups, and students, those picketing said that some locals have met the protest with confusion.

Sarah Ahn, a JWBS volunteer who has been picketing for two months, said the skepticism has been widespread.

“People say, ‘What’s the sweatshop campaign? That’s more in the garment district,’ or, ‘That’s a thing in China or Mexico. What do you mean Saigon is a sweatshop?’ But sweatshops are rampant here,” she said.

“That’s a big one, like ‘Oh, again?’” Lee said. “It seems like a lot of people still don’t know or think it’s already been resolved.”

Even Columbia students have gotten involved.

LUCHA, a Latino activist student group that staged a sit-in at Saigon before the current ownership took over, has been working with the Asian American Alliance and Students for Economic and Environmental Justice to get the word out.

“We’re looking to have as much student involvement as possible, not necessarily just student groups,” Johanna Ocana, CC ’10 and former LUCHA member, said.

Resident Orin Kotula said that because she used to work in restaurants earning \$10 a shift, she understood the difficulties restaurant workers face—but that many in her 95th Street building do not.

“The public is, I think, very naive about how much workers make and work practices in restaurants where people depend on what they make every week,” she said. “A lot of the people in my building on 95th order delivery from Saigon. They don’t know the reality of restaurant workers.”

She agreed with the protestors’ tactics of scaring away business.

“That’s the worst way to hurt them, is in their pockets,” she said. “The pocketbook—that’s powerful.”

Weng said most locals have been supportive by not crossing the picket line, but he is still struggling to convince current Saigon workers to join the protest.

“They say, ‘Oh, I just want to protect my job,’” Weng said. “But at this point, I don’t care if you’re union or non-union. We’re all working class. We should unite.”

Katie Bentivoglio contributed reporting.

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CHRISTINE CHO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PICKET | An employee of Saigon Grill protests outside the restaurant, which has been accused of underpaying its workers.

CUArts running with fewer employees, still no new director

CU ARTS from front page

has had to stop sponsoring some campus cultural events run by student groups.

“The monetary support that the Arts Initiative is able to provide other departmentally organized events has been affected,” Santner said in an e-mail. “A few years ago we were sponsoring more cultural events that other departments organized to engage students,” Santner said, adding that she does not know of any events which have not taken place because the initiative stopped sponsoring them.

Mosher said that before he

left, the Arts Initiative had been working on new projects with a technological bent, with staff members working to redesign the website and develop smart phone applications. But the smart phone apps have been put on hold.

“A student out in the city should be able to find out what arts discounts are available nearby, which nearby restaurants offer discounts to Columbians, get directions,” Mosher wrote in an e-mail. “In a better world, you’d link to the TIC through an app from anywhere, make reservations, and be all set.”

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Several possibilities exist for Light Blue’s losses

SHAW from back page

little bit more.

It can’t be because I didn’t go to Hanover, can it? I mean, it’s Hanover, and it was cold.

Is it that I picked Harvard to win the league? I was just trying to use the reverse jinx. Of course I believe in her.

Before I get ahead of myself, what are these mixed signals, you ask? Well, the list is all over the place.

First, there is coach Kyle Smith. He came in and got me all excited that my girl had gotten a major makeover with a West Coast guru. He helped take a team to the Sweet 16—the least I could hope for was a top-three finish. At first, we got along famously. I was finishing his sentences, he was smiling all the time, and people even showed up at Levien to see the Lions play.

Then things started to fall apart. Three losses in four games because my girlfriend was letting all kinds of attackers penetrate right through her defense, take advantage of her, and send her out in the cold with nothing.

Worst of all, suddenly the guru had no answers for me. Why did the team let a freshman utterly dominate it? How did Yale go on a 33-7 run in the first half? Why did the offense look so stagnant? HE DIDN’T KNOW.

Could it be something with her brain? Brian Barbour had been playing so well, scoring at a clip not even Smith anticipated. He still scored 19 points against Yale, but this past weekend he just wasn’t finishing like he used to. It killed us at the end of games, and I just couldn’t figure it out. Neither could Brian, but that can’t be the only reason.

Maybe the Lions are suffering from a crisis of confidence? Captain Noruwa Agho is supposed to be an All-Ivy performer, a scoring machine with a newfound passing game.

Then why has he scored six points in half of the Ivy games? He’s driving into the lane, but then he isn’t shooting. Six assists AND six turnovers in one game? Oy vey. That’s part of it, but they won that game against Cornell when he only scored six points.

Is she bottling something up inside? Mark Cisco has been so up-and-down I don’t know what to make of it. He’ll be great for five minutes and then nonexistent for 15. Smith certainly has kept him on a tight leash, so maybe we loosen it a little and let all those big emotions out? That doesn’t explain Asenso Ampim, though. He’s totally come out of his shell. 34 shots in two games? Holy mackerel.

Maybe the answer is that she is just too young and immature. Steve Frankoski, Dyami Starks, Meiko Lyles—all those guys have struggled on the road, both shooting the ball and on defense.

That’s so many options my head is spinning. Am I making too big a deal out of this? Is everything OK? Columbia is still 3-3, and I get to relax at home for the next two weekends. No paying for tickets, no slipping on the ice. Speaking of this weekend, two wins and we’re back in business.

The only problem? Penn and Princeton. Both of these teams have been pretty abusive over the years. Think lots of hair-pulling and anorexia jokes. I can still remember two years ago at Jadwin Gymnasium. The Light Blue looked so bad I started drinking at halftime. I couldn’t take it.

This time I know I need to keep my wits about me and give her all the support she needs. But will it be enough? At least I know she can’t cheat on me with the Quakers.

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COLUMBIA BASKETBALL

MEN’S BASKETBALL

vs. Princeton - Friday, February 11 @ 7 pm

vs. Penn - Saturday, February 12 @ 7pm*

*First 100 Students Get a Coupon for a Free Chipotle Burrito



Levien Gymnasium

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS GET FREE ADMISSION WITH COLUMBIA/BARNARD ID



UNLEASH THE ROAR!





HENRY WILLSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ON GUARD | In his first meet of the season Wednesday, freshman Alen Hadzic finished an impressive 7-2. He is expected to be a major contributor to the team and will likely qualify for the NCAAs.

Despite youth, Columbia expects success

FENCING from page 6

His intensity and size make him very difficult to beat. “I’m 6-3. Using my height is a big part of it,” Hadzic said. “Reach definitely helps.”

“I think he will do well this weekend,” Kolombatovich said. “Both [Hadzic] and [freshman épéeist] Magnus Ferguson will very likely make all-Ivy and very likely will qualify for NCAAs.”

The Lions had a difficult schedule early on, including bouts against Notre Dame (No.

1 in men’s and women’s), Penn State (No. 4 in men’s and No. 2 in women’s), St. John’s (No. 3 in men’s and No. 5 in women’s), Ohio State (No. 5 in men’s and No. 10 in women’s) and Harvard. The high level of competition they saw throughout the season was good preparation for what they will face at Ivies.

Despite their record, Columbia is among the favorites—along with Princeton, Harvard, and Penn—to win this weekend. Kolombatovich didn’t want to make any predictions,

however. “I wouldn’t even try to guess who comes out on top of those four schools,” he said.

The women hope to keep their momentum going at Princeton after sweeping NYU, Vassar, and Sacred Heart at the Historical Meet Plus at NYU on Wednesday.

“Success depends upon everyone doing their best. We have some fencers that are extremely strong and we need them to be consistent,” Kolombatovich said. “Be ready. Be in the moment. Then we’ll see what happens.”

Light Blue to travel to Princeton, Penn

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL from page 6

against Brown and four against Yale, is now 10 points away from 1000 for her career.

Penn, meanwhile, boasts the league’s leading scorer—and she’s only a freshman. Guard Alyssa Baron is averaging 17.3 points per game and is coming off a 38-point showing against Harvard (5-0 Ivy).

On Feb. 7, Baron received Ivy Player of the Week, Ivy League

Rookie of the Week, and Co-Big 5 Player of the Week honors. Then, on Tuesday, she earned the title of Co-ECAC Player of the Week. Baron shares that honor with none other than Connecticut’s Maya Moore, arguably the best women’s college basketball player in the country.

Though Penn (7-12, 1-4 Ivy) has only one league win, the Quakers have been competitive. Last weekend, they suffered a 68-65 loss at Dartmouth before enduring an 88-84 defeat—in

double overtime—at Harvard. Baron has shown that Penn should not be overlooked.

Columbia, true to its underdog form, does not see its upcoming games as guaranteed victories.

“We are definitely not to the point now where we can just roll in off the bus, show up, and beat anybody,” Nixon said. “We’ve really gotta keep playing well and keep working hard every possession and try our best to find a way to win at the end.”

Senior forward key to Tigers’ title hopes

MADDOX from page 6

15 rebounds as the Tigers rolled past Dartmouth 68-53, extending their home winning streak to nine.

Maddox also leads the Tigers with 42 blocked shots this season, double that of Ian Hummer, who ranks second with 21 blocked shots.

“Hummer, Maddox, the two guards, it’s a pick-your-poison,” said Columbia head coach Kyle Smith.

Maddox has been one of the Tigers’ most reliable weapons this season and has played in all 21 games to date. The two-time Ivy League Player of the Week’s impressive senior season is the culmination of a noteworthy career, dating back to his freshman season in 2007.

Last season, he played in all but one of the Tigers’ 31 games and led the team with 27 blocked shots. Maddox also proved himself behind senior stars on last year’s team, coming in second in rebounds with 105, averaging 3.5 boards per game. Maddox also came in second on the team in free throws, making 56 of 75 attempted.

Smith is certainly worried about limiting his drives to the lane and the subsequent fouls Maddox and fellow forward Hummer draw.

“I don’t think you can just sit there, play a man, and just let them run their stuff and its going to end up with the ball in Maddox or Hummer’s hands 10 feet away from making a post move,” he said. “I don’t think that’s the way to survive.”

The Tigers roll into the Big Apple this Friday looking to extend their undefeated record as they try to maintain their lead atop the conference. The Lions will have to watch out for playmakers like Maddox in order to hand Princeton its first Ivy loss of the season.

MEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING

Lions take on Ivy Champs

The Columbia men’s swimming and diving team (5-3, 3-2 Ivy) will wrap up its dual meet season this weekend when it competes in its final two conference competitions of the year.

On Saturday, the Light Blue will travel to Hanover (5-4, 1-4 Ivy), where they will face off against the Big Green at 2 p.m. Dartmouth’s only Ivy win this season was over Brown in a close 151-149 matchup. However, this was an improvement over last season, when Dartmouth was unable to defeat a single conference foe.

Before they travel to Hanover, the Lions must take on Princeton (5-2, 5-1 Ivy), which is the current defending Ivy champion. The Tigers

have secured the top spot at the championships for the past four years and currently lie just outside of the top 25 nationally ranked teams. Princeton is coming off a 133-167 loss to Navy, whom Columbia also lost to last weekend.

Lions head coach Jim Bolster is expecting the dual meet against the Tigers to be a good way to measure where the team stands. “We’re swimming with the best team,” he said. “It’ll be a really good opportunity to get kids to test themselves, see where we are at this point in the season ... and prepare for the final meet of the year.”

The final home meet of the year will kick off on Friday at 4 p.m. at Uris Pool.

— Rebeka Cohan

ARCHERY

Archery hoping to continue success in weekend’s Cupid Classic tournament

This Saturday, the women’s archery team will travel to the University of Connecticut to compete in the 2011 Cupid Classic. The Light Blue have had success at this event in the past, taking the top seven scores in the recurve bow division and the top two scores in the compound bow division last year.

Junior Sarah Chai had a great start to the indoor archery season last month, taking the top spot in recurve at the Eastern Seaboard FTA on Jan. 17. Last year, Chai took the top spot in the recurve division at the Cupid Classic after battling it out with her then-senior teammate, Sara Goshorn. Chai won by only one point and will be looking for a repeat performance this weekend.

Senior Gillian Kemmerer will be looking to replicate her great start to the season

at the Eastern Seaboard FTA, where she took first place in the compound division. This is Kemmerer’s first season shooting with a compound bow, but she has continued to be successful despite the change.

Other key competitors for the Light Blue this weekend will be compound shooter sophomore Emily Genatowski, who took second place in her division in last month’s tournament. Recurve shooters sophomore Maya Inamura and freshman Sara Lavenhar also had strong debuts on Jan. 17, taking second and third place, respectively.

The Cupid Classic will be the final tune-up for women’s archery before they head to the Indoor Nationals tournament in Harrisonburg, Va., on March 12.

— Myles Simmons

Light Blue tennis looking for a win this weekend

TENNIS from page 6

The Lions have a very young team that plays sophomores or freshman at positions No. 2 through five in the lineup.

The doubles teams have been a strong point for Columbia this year, highlighted by the play of sophomore Nate Gery and senior Kevin Kung. The duo knocked off the No. 22 team in the nation from Tulsa over the weekend and also played well at the ITA Indoor Championships in the fall, reaching the semifinals of the back draw.

George Washington enters the weekend with a record of 1-2 this spring. The Colonials

are coming off a win against East Carolina University but will be playing their third match in three days when they see Columbia on Sunday. George Washington is scheduled to play Penn on Friday and Temple on Saturday evening before coming to New York.

The Colonials did reach the finals of the A-10 Championship last year and return four starters, each of whom was selected to the A-10 all-Conference team last season. For the third straight year, the Colonials were the preseason pick to win the A-10 title.

The match is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. on Sunday at the Dick Savitt Tennis Center.

WRESTLING

Wrestling team looking for win after falling to No. 1 Big Red last weekend

The Columbia men’s wrestling team will continue its Ivy League season this weekend with matches against Princeton and Penn.

On Friday night, Columbia will host Princeton at the New York Athletic Club. Princeton, (4-9, 1-2 Ivy) who is ranked 57th in the nation, faced Harvard, Brown, and Penn this past weekend, defeating the Bears 21-16 but falling to the Crimson 15-21 and the Quakers 10-37. One of the top performers for the Tigers was 125-pound sophomore Garret Frey, who is currently ranked 17th in the country in his weight class. However, Frey lost his latest match against Penn’s No. 19 Mark Rappo, presenting Columbia freshman Penn Gottfried an opportunity for victory this Friday. Princeton boasts two wrestlers who have won a total of 20 matches so far this season—Frey and 157-pound

junior Daniel Kolodzic.

On Saturday the Lions will host No. 19 Penn, which will prove to be a more difficult match for the Light Blue. The Quakers are currently tied for first in the Ivy League with Cornell, whom they will go against on Friday evening.

Penn has five wrestlers ranked in the top 20, spread out between various weight classes. Their highest-ranked wrestlers, 133-pound senior Rollee Peterkin and 197-pound sophomore Micah Burak, stand at number five.

The Light Blue is coming off a loss to the Big Red, where the Lions owed their one win of the night to heavyweight Kevin Lester. This weekend will be an opportunity for Columbia to improve their Ivy League record. The action kicks off at the New York Athletic Club at 6:30 p.m. and on Saturday in the University Gym at 3 p.m.

— Meredith Mead

WOMEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING

Women’s swimming hoping to finish dual-meet season on a positive note

The women’s swimming and diving team (4-3, 2-4 Ivy) will travel to Hanover, N.H. this Saturday to compete in its final dual meet of the season against Ivy rival Dartmouth.

In their last dual meet, the Lions lost to Princeton at Uris Pool last Friday, 104-196. The meet saw two strong performances by the diving team, especially by freshman diver Liana Diamond, who finished second in the 3m and 1m events.

The Big Green, however, are 9-5 for the season and 2-3 in the Ivies, having had their most recent Ivy matchup against Princeton as well and fallen 106.5-131.5.

When the Light Blue faced the Big Green last

season, they were victorious, topping Dartmouth 179-119. During the competition, the Lions took the top three spots in both the 500 freestyle, with Paige Endsley taking first, and the 100 backstroke, where Delghi Urubshurw took the top spot. In the 50 freestyle, Columbians Ashley MacLean and Bunge Okeyo had an unlikely finish in which they hit the wall simultaneously, sharing first place with a time of 24.87.

The meet against Dartmouth will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday. After this final dual meet of the season, the Lions will be looking towards the Ivy League Championships, which will be held at Princeton from Feb. 24 to 26.

— Julia Garrison

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Q&A with Director PETER BYCK FRIDAY & SATURDAY after the 7:00pm show.

Cinema Village
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Don't suffer in private

BY NANCY WORKMAN

When I was diagnosed with colon cancer in the fall of 2003 (not quite “in the middle of our life’s journey” but disconcertingly near it), kind of like Dante’s Pilgrim, I immediately started out on a forced march through unfamiliar, sometimes hostile terrain. In the process, I may have learned some things that qualify as “larger truths” (carpe diem, anyone?), but I think some of the smaller truths are actually more interesting—and most of them had to do with learning when and how to look away, not pay attention, and forget.

Doctors warned me not to troll the internet for information, and they were absolutely right—as I discovered after I had ignored them. For me, reading about radiation burns, nerve damage, and metastases was—until I forced myself to stop—an irresistible compulsion that left me more and more depressed. Statistics about survival rates were all over the map; one article would convince me I was home free, another that I was as good as dead. To read them was to experience emotional drain without cognitive gain. (As it turned out, my disease was both aggressive and rather advanced; I ended up spending a year in treatment.)

Patients are often encouraged to take a very active role in their own medical care. Thus, I was taken aback and maybe even offended at first when my oncologist gave me this advice: “Don’t become a ‘professional patient.’ My job is to treat you; your job is to live your life.” But I came to see what he meant, and to find it very wise. In an extreme medical situation, you are rarely in danger of forgetting how sick you are; what’s often all too easy to forget is how much a part of the ordinary world you still are.

From the many hours I spent in the oncologist’s infusion suite, hooked up to a drip, and chatting with my “chemo buddy” Fred, a theatrical producer in his 60s or 70s with terminal lung cancer, I learned that denial is highly underrated. The last thing Fred and I wanted to talk or think about was the reason we were sitting there having our pleasant conversation; we talked about movies and plays, and we really enjoyed ourselves.

Through the whole process, I was teaching Lit Hum. The extent to which it nourished and sustained me was surprising, not least because the Lit Hum syllabus is stuffed with meditations on suffering and mortality. It was actually a relief to be able to look at suffering and mortality, not from the face-squashed-up-against-the-glass perspective of the patients’ forum on cancercare.org (or the inside of my own body), but from a certain distance, together with my students, as aspects of human life applicable to everyone. Private suffering can be a cage; to be inside my classroom was to be outside my cage.

Eventually it all came to an end. Done with treatment, and gradually recovering my stamina, I sometimes caught myself having forgotten that this intense experience had ever happened. But every fall when I teach the Book of Job, I think about what I went through and mull over this verse (14:7-9): “For there is hope for a tree, if it is cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease. Though its root grows old in the earth, and its stump dies in the ground, yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth branches like a young plant.” At the time he speaks this line, Job means it as a damning contrast with the lot of human beings, who get no second chance to thrive if they die. But at the end of the book, he is still alive and, against all expectations, “budding and putting forth branches” himself. He never learns the meaning of what happened to him. Instead, he takes up his life where it left off and thrives again, seemingly undamaged. Every year so far, I have been pleased to note that—though I would blush to compare my trials with his—I still resemble him.

The author is an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Casual Friday: Love in the time of Columbia

You’re a fickle lover.
Oh, Columbia, you have so much potential for love. Your glittering tree-lined College Walk is reminiscent of the Champs Élysées at night, and your nooks in Butler ooze cozy romanticism.
As you bathe College Walk in a faint yellow light, you make our treks home from Campo feel slightly more magical than they are.

Columbia, we thank you for making us feel romantic and infatuated. But your love is fickle, and we’re none the wiser. When back in our dorm rooms under harsh fluorescent bulbs, we remember that in truth, we spent the day in the library and our evening with a bunch of bros.

Perhaps we spent our day optimistically reading Shakespeare and Sappho, expecting to be overwhelmed with passion. We rationalize that our studies could even help our romantic lives by providing us with some lovely pillow talk, if only we had the chance to try it out—but really, we just want a perfect score.

Home base, or the yearned-for 4.0, are the ends for all Columbia students. We may pine for a relationship or an intellectually rewarding academic experience on some level, but our short-term goals of sex and A’s take precedent.

Though only eight percent get there, home base is the epitome of success. We hear about these lucky individuals and watch them from afar, but to us, they are a million miles away.

We are not scorned—we are neglected. Columbia, you leave our arms empty and our beds cold. But perhaps you are not to blame.

We seek ends of themselves. A successful day entails getting an A on a term paper and a companion at the end of the night. We do not enjoy the journey; we await the completion of our goals.

But at the end of the day (and what day better than Valentine’s), we realize that our goals are shallow and our hearts lonely. Scoring no longer gives us a thrill—we seek something more.

But as soon as we are ready for you and your romanticism, Columbia, you are not ready for us. We are left cold and without a 4.0.

Alas! We’re caught in a bad romance.

The motives for charity

Last week, two friends were regaling me with stories of the CU Dance Marathon—one had participated for the first time this year, and the other had dropped by to cheer on the dancers. Both of them were impressed by everyone’s high spirits and the dancers’ level of dedication, as well as the sheer number of people who showed up. According to Spectator’s story on the event, (“Students get jiggy to fight AIDS,” Jan. 31), there were 175 dancers, and \$48,000 was raised for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation. Hearing their stories, as well as these facts and figures, gave me another piece of evidence for one of my favorite personal theories: Columbia, as a school, is obsessed with doing good. Volunteering, community outreach, fundraising for worthy causes—this stuff is as familiar to us as problem sets and readings are. And each time I hear about another friend or acquaintance of mine getting involved in a new social justice project, it brings a smile to my face because it gives me hope that we’re not just obsessed with our own lives.

But it also gets me wondering: Why do we do these things? What motivates us to spend our free time helping others? Being the optimist that I am, I’m usually inclined to think that people are motivated by love or kindness. That is, they genuinely care about the individuals or groups that they are helping, and they earnestly desire to see people’s lives made better. I like to give most people the benefit of the doubt on this one, but sadly, there are other motives that drive people to social justice work—the types of motives that won’t get included in sappy Lifetime movies. There’s guilt: feeling terrible for not having helped in the past. There’s fear: the worry that you might end up in the position of needing help rather than giving it. There’s absolution: trying to feel better about possessing a certain type of privilege by helping those who don’t have it. There’s even: “My roommate asked me for a donation to sponsor a child in Uganda—I can’t say no to that, I’ll look like a horrible person!”

Now, it’s all very well to point out different motives, you might say, but if money is being raised and people



KATHRYN BRILL

We Should Talk

are being helped, surely it doesn’t matter what leads us there. Although I don’t wish to diminish the good deeds of others on the basis of what motivated them, I do believe that what motivates us to help others is important and can change the nature of the help we give. Guilt, fear, and absolution may be effective motivators in the sense that they jolt us into action because they are uncomfortable feelings, and we want to assuage them. But they aren’t sustainable motivators—it’s possible to go for a long time without feeling them, and the jolt they produce doesn’t last very long. And yes, sometimes the guilt I feel when I pass a homeless man leads me to give him a dollar, but sometimes it leads me to walk by as quickly as possible and hope the feeling passes soon. Humans usually like to bury uncomfortable feelings as quickly as possible, and while guilt or fear or absolution may lead to one spectacular act of charity, they are unlikely to motivate sustained service or power a longer social justice project. Instead, the actions they produce will be sporadic, occurring only when the feelings are jolted to life.

But more to the point, guilt, fear, and absolution are all self-centered. Actions of social justice motivated by these feelings are ultimately not about the person or group we are trying to help, no matter how much good is done. Unlike all the motivations I mentioned, only love is actually focused on the other and not on the self. Only love can pull us out of ourselves and propel us into the world of someone whom we are trying to help, placing us in a position where we are attuned to others’ needs rather than trying to meet our own. Guilt gives the homeless man a dollar, but love takes him out to lunch and listens to what he has to say. Without love, we may be missing the point.

So let’s dance for AIDS relief, walk to cure cancer, sponsor a starving child. But before we do these things, let’s be honest with ourselves about our motives. And if they’re less than pleasant, let’s open our hearts to change, to caring about the people we’re trying to help, not for the ways they make us feel better but for themselves, as themselves.

Kathryn Brill is a Barnard sophomore majoring in English. She is a member of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. We Should Talk runs alternate Fridays.

Save Floridita from Columbia’s greed

BY ANDREW LYUBARSKY AND BEN TOTUSHEK

Today we accuse the University of being petty and mean. These are the only words that come to mind to describe Columbia’s treatment of Floridita restaurant and its owner Ramon Diaz—described ably in the Feb. 4 Spectator article (“Floridita owner files complaint against Columbia”)—in the face of resounding success on all of its stated objectives for its expansion into Manhattanville. Floridita, a family-owned Harlem institution formerly located on Broadway and 125th Street, had been in continuous operation for over 40 years before Columbia could not find it in its heart to arrange a workable relocation solution in its grand vision. The community space stands shuttered, its 40 employees unemployed, its future in doubt.

That’s right. In a \$6 billion expansion plan, there just wasn’t enough room to accommodate a beloved Cuban diner.

For someone who supports the expansion, eminent domain could potentially be justified. “While the methods might be questionable,” our potential expansion supporter might say, “the University needs a contiguous campus, and businesses in the area are standing in the way.” The fact that Columbia pressed forward with its plan despite being soundly rejected by a Community Board 9 vote of 32 to 2? “Well, community democracy is all well and good, but they shouldn’t be allowed to hold the development of the city hostage.” The displacement of thousands of people from rising housing prices mentioned in the plan’s environmental impact statement? “Cities are dynamic—they change, and gentrification is the cost of progress.”

Let us be clear. We firmly and categorically reject all of these arguments, but we understand them. They have a logic that to us seems cruel, top-down, and ignorant of the particular challenges faced by low-income communities of color in today’s global cities, but there is a logic nonetheless. A reasonable person could hold these beliefs, and we would be glad to put them up for debate.

Our hypothetical expansion supporter would be at a loss to find a grand theoretical justification for taking a restaurant that has long been popular with students and community members alike and plopping it into an unusable asbestos-ridden building. He might also find it troubling that during the 2007 approval hearings, when the community board voted the plan down, Diaz had testified in favor of the expansion plan under the belief that his business would be accommodated, only to discover that the University did not believe that it had an obligation to find him a new space and neglected to inform him that his lease would expire early as part of the eminent domain proceedings then underway.



AMALIA RINEHART

Columbia to face Princeton, Penn this weekend

MEN’S BASKETBALL from back page

both points allowed (64.3) and defensive field goal percentage (42.3 percent). When Princeton does take shots, it is particularly effective, leading the league in field goal percentage (46.7 percent). Against a team that does not give up points easily, the Lions cannot afford costly turnovers or mental lapses on either end of the floor.

The next night, Columbia will welcome Penn (9-10, 3-2 Ivy) to Levien Gymnasium for its Alumni Night. The greats of years past will be treated to a matchup of two of the Ivy League’s current stars in the Lions’ Noruwa Agho and the Quakers’ Zack Rosen. Rosen, along with Harvard’s Jeremy Lin, was one of only two non-Cornell players to be named first team all-Ivy last season, and Agho was named to the preseason first team all-Ivy before the 2010-2011 campaign.

Rosen leads a Penn squad that had won four straight games before dropping two in a row in overtime. The Quakers dropped an 83-82 nail-biter in double overtime to Harvard last Saturday before losing to Princeton on Tuesday.

While Rosen is the team’s leading scorer with 14.6 points per game, the Quakers—like Princeton—are

not a one-dimensional squad. Jack Eggleston, a lanky 6-foot-8, 215-pound senior forward, is just behind Rosen with 14.0 points per game. Guards Tyler Bernardini and Miles Cartwright add 12.6 and 11.9 per game, respectively. Rosen, Bernardini, and Eggleston all can stretch the floor and shoot from the outside, averaging over 36 percent from beyond the arc. Including Cartwright, all four can be considered as outside threats—despite being listed as a forward, Eggleston is not a prototypical post player.

As a result, Smith will need to find a reliable on-ball defender on the perimeter, something that has for the most part eluded him this season. The Lions’ three starting guards—Agho, freshman sharpshooter Steve Frankoski, and sophomore point guard Brian Barbour—have had to shoulder the bulk of the scoring load this year. Smith has looked to his bench for relief of defense, turning to lanky freshman Meiko Lyles and athletic classmate Van Green at various points this year.

This past Sunday, though, Smith turned to little-used sophomore Dean Kowalski, who helped spark a second-half run that nearly turned a 16-point halftime deficit into a big road win. Asked if Kowalski would be “his guy” this weekend, Smith hinted at an increased role for the relentless 5-foot-10-inch

guard, but stopped short of giving him the nod as the Lions’ go-to defender.

“I wouldn’t anticipate Dean being a big-minute guy. I just know if we need a spark or if guys are murdering us, I’m going to him,” Smith said. “We’ll at least give that guy a look. Lord knows I tried everything.”

Another answer could come at the other end of the floor for the Light Blue in the form of a low-post offensive threat. Both senior Asenso Ampim and sophomore Mark Cisco seem eager to fit the bill. Last weekend Ampim averaged 17.5 points between the two contests, while Cisco scored 17 against Yale while guarding the league’s premier big man in Greg Mangano. If either can step up consistently, Agho and Barbour may have a little more energy for defense, which would solve Smith’s conundrum altogether.

Princeton will be a tough test for a Columbia team that is desperate to regain the midseason swagger that saw the Lions win ten games during a 12-game stretch from Nov. 23 to Jan. 22. The Light Blue has won seven of its last eight in the friendly confines of Levien, and Smith hopes a little home cooking may be just what his squad needs to get back on track.

“When we’re our best, we’re balanced, and we’re starting to get there,” he said.



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BIG NUMBERS | Junior guard Melissa Shafer has been extremely successful offensively, putting up double-digit points in the past three games for the Lions.

Womens basketball remain underdogs in upcoming games

BY SARAH SOMMER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Even with a three-game winning streak—including a sweep of Brown and Yale last weekend—and with five wins in their past seven games, the Columbia women’s basketball team is still the underdog. At least, that’s how the Lions see themselves.

For head coach Paul Nixon, Columbia’s underdog status has less to do with the Lions starting the season with 13 straight losses than with Columbia (5-15, 4-2 Ivy) playing six of its final eight games—including its two games this weekend, against Princeton and Penn—on the road.

“If we were gonna play six of our last eight games here at home ... I would say we might—might—be considered the favorites,” Nixon said. “But I just don’t think, in our league and, really, in any league, when you go on the road—unless you’re one of the league favorites—that you’re gonna be the favorite.”

That makes Princeton (15-4, 4-1) the favorite on Friday, though the Tigers have already been picked to finish first in the Ivy League. Princeton went 14-0 in conference play last year.

This season, the Tigers had returned all of their starters—until sophomore forward Niveen Rasheed, the reigning Ivy League Rookie of the Year, went down with an ACL injury on Dec. 29. Though Rasheed was averaging a team-high 16.4 points per game, Princeton still has plenty of scoring options.

Senior guard Addie Micir, for example, is the league’s fifth-highest scorer,

with 13.3 points per game. Then comes junior center Devona Allgood (11.8) and junior guard Lauren Edwards (11.4).

Micir is most dangerous from beyond the arc, where her three-point shooting percentage (.463) is the second-highest among conference players. She already has made 56 three-pointers this year, averaging a league-high 2.95 per game.

Columbia will counter with junior guard Melissa Shafer, who has regained her shooting touch after having struggled early in the season. Shafer led the league in three-point shooting percentage (.443) last year and is now tenth in the conference (.337).

Shafer has scored in double figures in each of the Lions’ past three games. In Columbia’s 72-49 win over Brown on Feb. 4, she went 5-for-8 from the three-point range and finished with a game-high 17 points.

Despite Shafer’s recent success, she likely will not join the starting lineup. Shafer has thrived as a bench player throughout her career, and Nixon does not want to rearrange his starting five now that his players—both starters and reserves—have finally become comfortable in their roles.

Shafer is not the Lions’ only offensive threat. Senior guard Kathleen Barry is averaging a team-high 11.2 points per game, and a total of four Columbia players have scored in double digits in each of the past three contests. Senior center Lauren Dwyer, who scored 14 points

SEE WOMEN’S BASKETBALL, page 3

Ivy League Championships next up for Light Blue fencing

BY SPENCER GYORY
Spectator Staff Writer

Columbia’s men’s and women’s fencing teams will be competing at the Ivy League Championships on Saturday and Sunday at Princeton. This intense two-day event will be a difficult test for the young but talented Lions.

The program hopes to add to its 41 championships this weekend, when they will face some of the toughest teams in the country, including Harvard (No. 2 in men’s and No. 3 in women’s), Princeton (No. 6 in men’s and No. 4 in women’s), and Penn (No. 7 in men’s and No. 8 in women’s). The Tigers are the defending Ivy League Champion for both teams.

The Lions will arrive at Princeton without some of their best fencers from last season. The No. 6 women’s team, which finished second at Ivies last year, lost a pair of individual national champions. Daria Schneider CC ’10 graduated and Nicole Ross CC ’11 is taking a year off to train for the Olympics. Ross was the 2010 NCAA champion in foil and posted a tremendous record of 65-6 in 2009-2010. Schneider, who is now an assistant coach for the Lions, was the 2007 NCAA champion in sabre and recorded a very strong 34-8 record in 2009-2010.

On the men’s side, the No. 8 ranked team will be without 2008 sabre

national champion and three-time all-American Jeff Spear CC ’10.

Because of the losses, the Light Blue has a combined 16 freshmen on its squad and no seniors. While the Lions are young, they have a great deal of potential. Some of their best returning fencers include junior sabre and co-captain Sammy Roberts, junior épée Neely Brandfield-Harvey, sophomore épée Lydia Kopecky, and junior épée and captain Sean Leahy.

The Lions are also fortunate enough to have two extremely talented freshmen in Nzingha Prescod and Alen Hadzic, who compete in foil and épée, respectively.

Coach George Kolombatovich has very high praise for Prescod. “She’s number one in the country,” he said. “She is a Pan-American champion and is ranked somewhere in the top 20 in the world. She is a complete fencer. She is someone who will probably win every bout she fences.”

Kolombatovich had similar admiration for Hadzic. “He is a very intense individual. That intensity carries over to practice and competition. He doesn’t like to lose at all,” Kolombatovich said. Hadzic participated in his first meet of the season for the Lions at the Historical Meet Plus on Wednesday and emerged with a strong 7-2 result.

SEE FENCING, page 3



COURTESY OF DAILY PRINCETONIAN

TWO THIRTY | Senior forward Kareem Maddox has recorded at least thirty points in a game two times this season and poses a huge threat to the Lions.

Princeton’s Kareem Maddox to stand in way of a Lions victory

BY ROBERT WREN GORDON
Spectator Staff Writer

One could argue that there are many reasons for Princeton’s undefeated record. The Tigers have outdone their competition in nearly every major statistical category and are currently on a seven-game winning streak coming into this weekend’s game at Levien Gymnasium on Friday night.

As every sports fan knows, every great team is made up of great players, and this year’s Tigers team is no different. One such player is senior forward Kareem Maddox.

Maddox, who hails from Oak Park, Calif., is in his third season as a starter for the Tigers and is currently one of the Tigers’ primary statistical leaders. On the offensive side of the ball, Maddox

ranks fourth on the team in scoring, averaging 12.9 points per game—not even a whole point shy of team leader Ian Hummer’s 13.8-point average.

Maddox is also the most accurate field goal shooter on the team with an impressive .573 average on the season. On top of that, the 6-foot-8-inch forward leads Princeton at the charity stripe, with 74 shots made on 98 trips to the line.

Even though Maddox is one of the Tigers’ top contributors on offense, he is a defensive ace and a key piece of Princeton’s lineup. Maddox leads the Tigers in both rebound categories, averaging 7.3 per game. Last week against Dartmouth, in one of the best games of his career, Maddox snagged

SEE MADDUX, page 3

Men’s tennis to face off against George Washington on Sunday

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The men’s tennis team, in the midst of a two-match losing streak, will look to turn around its fortunes against George Washington University this weekend in its final tune-up for the Eastern College Athletic Championships.

The losses are deceiving for Columbia, however, as both came at the hands of two of the top programs in the nation. The Lions, ranked No. 48 in the latest national poll, dropped both of their matches at the ITA Kick-Off Event to No. 13 Louisville and No. 35 Tulsa.

The Light Blue will come into Sunday’s match having played well this spring, despite what its record shows. No. 1 singles player Haig Schneiderman knocked off Boston

College’s No. 1 singles player—who was ranked No. 60 in the nation in the fall—in straight sets. Schneiderman split sets with the nation’s No. 8 player from Louisville before the match was called, and fell in straight sets to the No. 44 player from Tulsa. Schneiderman, who has battled a back injury since the fall, will look forward to getting some wins under his belt as the team gets ready to see Ivy competition for the first time at the ECAC Tournament.

Sophomore John Yetimoglu also showed some encouraging signs at the Kick-Off event. Yetimoglu ascended from the bottom of the lineup to No. 2 singles this spring and held his own at No. 2 against Louisville and Tulsa, losing in three sets to a ranked player in each match.

SEE TENNIS, page 3

THE SLATE	
	MEN’S BASKETBALL vs. Princeton Levien Gymnasium Friday, 7 p.m.
	MEN’S BASKETBALL vs. Penn Levien Gymnasium Saturday, 6 p.m.
	WOMEN’S BASKETBALL at Princeton Princeton, N.J. Friday, 7 p.m.
	WOMEN’S BASKETBALL at Penn Philadelphia, Penn. Saturday, 7 p.m.
	MEN’S TENNIS vs. George Washington Dick Savitt Tennis Center Sunday, 2 p.m.
	WOMEN’S TENNIS vs. E. Tennessee State Dick Savitt Tennis Center Friday, 2 p.m.
	WOMEN’S TENNIS vs. Rutgers Dick Savitt Tennis Center Saturday, 1 p.m.
	FENCING Ivy League Championships Princeton, N.J. Feb. 12–13, all day
	MEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING vs. Princeton Uris Pool Friday, 4 p.m.
	MEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING at Dartmouth Hanover, N.H. Saturday, 2 p.m.
	WOMEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING at Dartmouth Hanover, N.H. Saturday, 11 a.m.
	MEN’S SQUASH at Vassar, vs. Wesleyan StreetSquash Facility Saturday, 11 a.m.
	WOMEN’S SQUASH at Vassar, vs. Wesleyan StreetSquash Facility Saturday, 11 a.m.
	WRESTLING vs. Princeton New York Athletic Club Friday, 6:30 p.m.
	WRESTLING vs. Penn University Gymnasium Saturday, 3 p.m.
	TRACK & FIELD Armory Invitational The Armory Saturday, 6:30 p.m.
	ARCHERY Pennsylvania State Reading, Penn. Saturday, 4 p.m.

PIXBOX
week
3

- 1: Penn at Columbia (+5.5)
2: Princeton at Cornell (+10.5)
3: Yale at Harvard (-8.5)
4: Brown at Dartmouth (+4.5)
5: Ohio State at Wisconsin (+4.5)
6: Lakers at Knicks (+5.5)
7: Hornets at Magic (-3.5)
8: Manchester City at Manchester United



Zach Glubiak (12-12)

Roar Lion
Big Red
Bulldogs
Bears
Badger Nation
Knicks
Magic
Sir Alex

So this is what it's like up here...

If Zach wins Pixbox, with God as my witness, I will quit.

Columbia
Cornell
Harvard
Dartmouth
Wisconsin
Lakers
Orlando
Que es eso?



Kunal Gupta (12-12)



Jacob Levenfeld (12-12)

Columbia
Cornell
Yale
Brown
OSU
New York
Orlando
Man U

21 years, one singeing.

My life is lost without football.

Columbia
Princeton
Harvard
Brown
OSU
Lakers
Magic
United



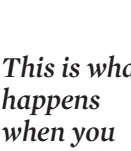
Myles Simmons (12-12)



Mrinal Mohanka (11-13)

Roaree
Cornell
Harvard
McGonagill
Ohio State
Knickerbockers
BeMagic
Arab Money

Three cheers for the Premiership... Cricket coming next.



This is what happens when you don't turn in your picks.

Columbia
Cornell
Yale
Dartmouth
Wisconsin
Knicks
Hornets
Man City

Bart Lopez (10-14)



Lucas Shaw (10-14)

Light Blue
Big Red
Crimson
Bears
Badgers
Mamba
Orlando
ManU

13 titles and counting

BEAT PRINCETON.

Columbia
Cornell
Yale
Dartmouth
Thomas Rhiel
Lakers
Hogwarts
City



Michele Cleary (9-15)



Jim Pagels (9-15)

Columbia
Princeton
Harvard
Dartmouth
Ohio State
Knicks
Magic
Man City

Looks like UNC is really motivated to avenge that NIT championship game loss.

Is it March yet?

Grade Inflation
Big Red
Social Network
UPS
Badgers
Kobe
Magic
Red Devils



Michael Shapiro (8-16)

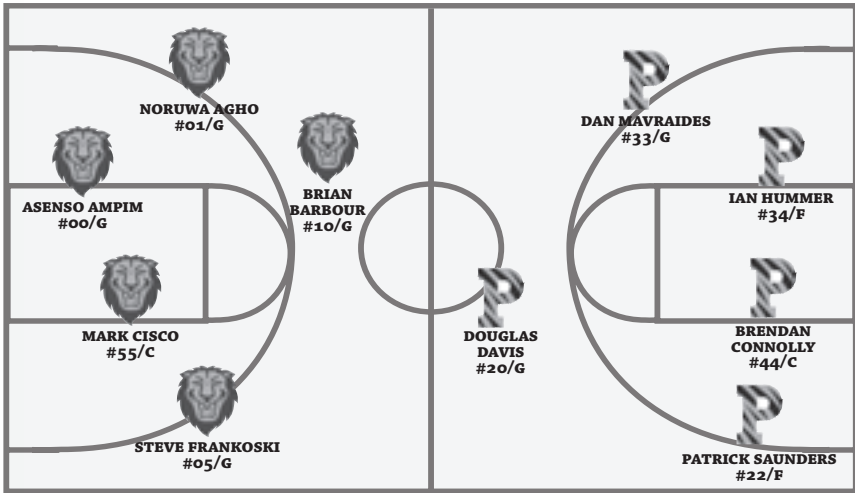
FRIDAY
FAST BREAK

STARTING LINEUPS

GAME 1:



VS.



KEYS TO THE GAME

1

Noruwa Agho

If the Lions want to be the top-ranked team in the conference, Noruwa Agho needs to be on top of his game. Last weekend, the junior totaled 12 points between the two games. If the Light Blue hopes to be in contention with Princeton, Agho will need to put big numbers on the scoreboard.

2

Control the ball

When playing against a team like Princeton that can do serious damage both inside the paint and beyond the arc, Columbia will have to hold onto the ball. If the Lions turn the ball over, they will only give Princeton more opportunities to score, which is dangerous because the Tigers are .467 from the field.

3

Guard play

Princeton's team is particularly dangerous because it features a balanced group of scorers. Both Kareem Maddox and Douglas Davis pose huge threats to the Lions' chances of victory. If the Light Blue want to find success, they will need to find a way to shut down the Tigers' talented and diverse offensive players.

BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS PER GAME



REBOUNDS PER GAME



POINTS ALLOWED



FIELD GOAL PCT.



KEY MATCHUPS

Mark Cisco

Kareem Maddox

Mark Cisco recorded a breakout performance for Columbia in its loss to Yale. The sophomore center scored 17 points in the game, which is more than double his 7.3 points per game. Princeton forward Kareem Maddox comes off the bench but still logs heavy minutes. Maddox is a potent post player—he averages 12.9 points and 7.3 rebounds.



Asenso Ampim

Dan Mavraides

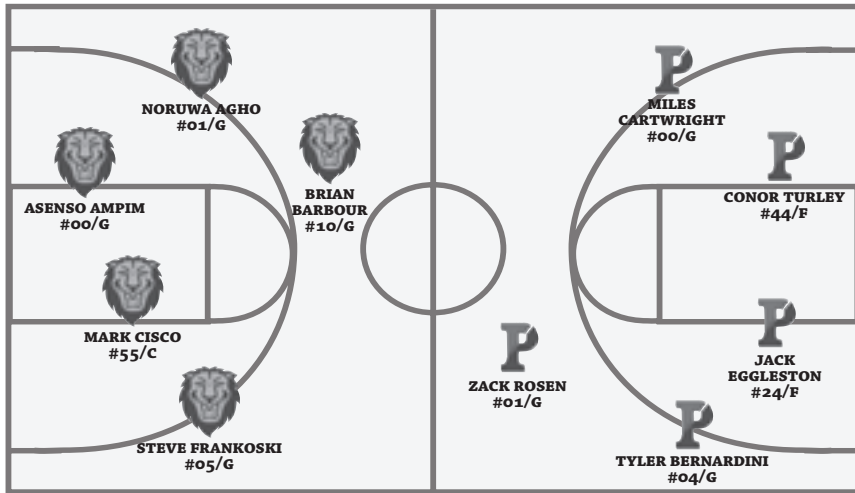
Senior forward Asenso Ampim will be the last line of defense against guard Dan Mavraides's drives to the basket. The six-foot-six-inch Ampim has struggled when defending some of the larger low-post players in the Ivies this season, but containing Mavraides—who Ampim has two inches on—will certainly help the Lions on defense.

STARTING LINEUPS

GAME 2:



VS.



KEYS TO THE GAME

1

Rebounding

Columbia currently leads the League in rebounds, while Penn sits towards the bottom of the Ancient Eight. If the Light Blue can continue its success off the glass, it can use its second-chance scoring opportunities to put up some large numbers on the scoreboard.

2

Spreading the ball

The Lions' key players have been inconsistent throughout this season. One week, Ampim will be a nonentity with Agho racking up big numbers, and the next the two will swap. If the Light Blue wants to secure a victory, every player will need to step up their game and contribute to the point total.

3

Focus until the end

Most of Penn's Ivy games have come down to the wire. The Quakers fell to the top two teams in the League, Princeton and Harvard, in contests that went into overtime. Columbia will need play smart and keep their game consistent until the very end, because Penn will capitalize on any last minute errors.

BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS PER GAME



REBOUNDS PER GAME



POINTS ALLOWED



FIELD GOAL PCT.



KEY MATCHUPS

Noruwa Agho

Zack Rosen

Two of the Ivy League's leading candidates for Player of the Year will face off as both look to shake off subpar performances in recent play. Agho scored only 12 points last weekend, and Rosen scored 8 points in an overtime loss to Princeton on Tuesday. Both stars look to get back on track in this pivotal Ivy League contest.



Steve Frankoski

Jack Eggleston

Frankoski and Eggleston are both key players for their respective teams' offensive attack. Eggleston—although he does not hoist three-pointers often—makes them at a 51 percent rate. The Lions' Frankoski is no stranger to the three-point shot. He has attempted 106 treys this year and has made 37 percent of them.

GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11 • PAGE 8



**COLUMBIA (12-8, 3-3 Ivy)
vs. PRINCETON (17-4, 5-0 Ivy)**
FRIDAY, 7 P.M., LEVIEN GYMNASIUM

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM
SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



**COLUMBIA (12-8, 3-3 Ivy)
vs. PENN (9-10, 3-2 Ivy)**
SATURDAY, 7 P.M., LEVIEN GYMNASIUM

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM
SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



Columbia men's basketball sends mixed signals

You know when a girl gives you the look but then leaves the bar, or grinds on you right before talking about her boyfriend? These are what you call mixed signals, and the past few weeks have been full of them.

See, my mixed signals aren't coming in the amorous part of my life, but the Columbia basketball team has been my girlfriend of late, making me travel to Ithaca, Boston, Providence, and New Haven just to see her play. I even paid for train tickets, bought all the meals and talked through her problems after every game.

Despite all this effort on my part, I'm still waiting for the kind of consistent relationship I desire. All this traveling, writing, and announcing for a middle-of-the-pack team? This is our last year together. I just want a



LUCAS SHAW
In the Refrigerator

SEE SHAW, page 2

For **THE SLATE**,
see page 6



MIKE DISCENZA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BLASTING OFF | Senior forward Asenso Ampim had an explosive weekend against Brown and Yale, totaling 25 points between the two competitions.

Light Blue returns home, looks to overcome slump

BY ZACH GLUBIAK
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

If the Lions were hoping to get a break after a five-game road trip, they will have to wait at least another week.

In their first two home games since topping Cornell on Jan. 15, this weekend Columbia plays host to two of the Ivy League's elite in Princeton and Penn. The Tigers (17-4, 5-0 Ivy) lead the conference after beating Harvard over the weekend and then downing the Quakers 62-59 in overtime in a midweek matchup.

Columbia enters the game on a two-game skid after getting swept last weekend at Brown and Yale. The Light Blue (12-8, 3-3 Ivy) has dropped three of its last four after starting conference play 2-0 and will have to focus its attentions on the defensive end of the court if it hopes to turn its fortunes around.

The Lions surrendered 55 second-half points against the Bears after heading into the intermission with a 38-32 advantage. Brown's freshman point guard Sean McGonagill scored 39 points, 24 of which came in the second-half barrage that ultimately undid the Light Blue. Brown shot a staggering 74.1 percent from the field during that stretch.

Head coach Kyle Smith labeled that defensive performance an anomaly, but his team faces two sets of very talented guards this weekend for which they will need to account.

Up first will be Princeton's

backcourt of Douglas Davis and Dan Mavraides. Davis and Mavraides score 13.2 and 13.3 points a game, respectively, in a Tigers offense that features four different threats. Beyond Davis and Mavraides, Princeton has a pair of options in the post in sophomore Ian Hummer and senior sixth man Kareem Maddox.

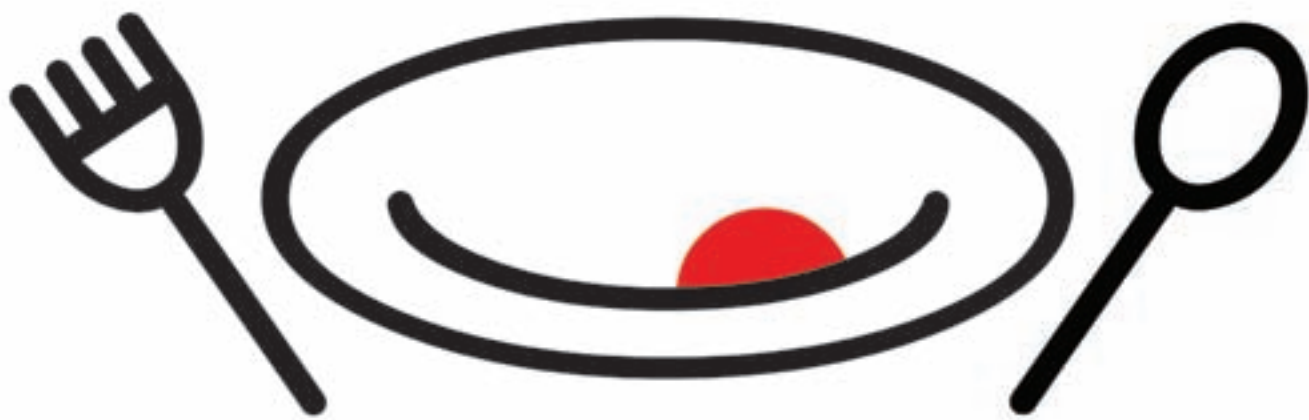
"Usually we say, 'Well we'll try to wipe out the three or cover down the post.' ... In order to win, we gotta do both—we gotta be able to help them on the post, recover and guard the three," Smith said. "It's as simple as that. That's what I tell the team, it's like, they're good, but if we want to win, we're going to have to do both."

Hummer is the team's leading scorer with 13.8 points per game to go with 6.6 boards. Maddox leads the team in rebounds with 7.3 per game to go with 12.9 points. Despite coming on as a substitute, Maddox averages nearly 31 minutes a contest.

Princeton's balanced quartet of scorers means Smith's defense will not be able to key in on a single area of the Tigers' offense. Since the Tigers have the ability to score inside and out, the Lions will have to find a way to stop both approaches.

In addition, the pace of the Tigers' play may also pose problems for a young Lions team. A squad historically known for its methodical style, Friday night's opponent has the second best defensive team in the conference in

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 6



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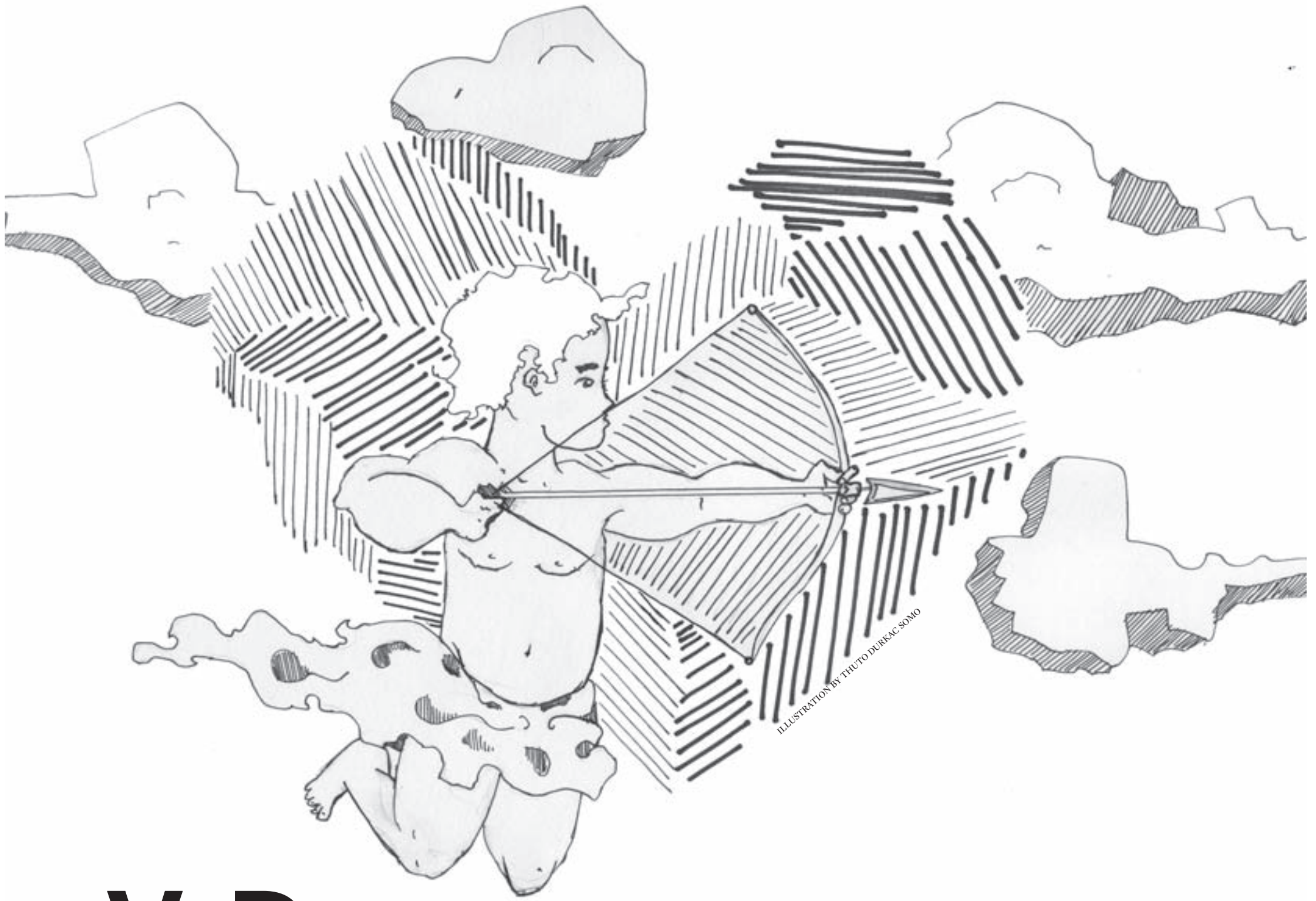


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This V-Day, fall in love with food, booze, and sex

VALERIYA SAFRONOVA
Spectator Staff Writer

Ad moguls would have us believe that the perfect Valentine's Day consists of flowers, chocolate, a nice dinner, and—for those really willing to break the bank—jewelry. Check off the major categories, and everyone's happy. Unfortunately, Valentine's Day also comes with a lot of baggage, and for many, it's a love it or hate it kind of holiday.

I've had a healthy dose of both good and bad times on the national day of love, and the biggest takeaway I've had is that the love part is the least important. In fact, Valentine's Day is not really about love at all. Love can't be restricted to one day out of 365, nor is it best expressed through symbolic hearts and roses. A satisfactory Valentine's Day has three important components—food, booze, and sex—and each comes with its own delicate set of do's and don'ts.

FOOD

Everybody has heard of aphrodisiacs, and scientists seem determined to dismiss them as false. But it is hard to deny that some foods are just sexier than others. Take fondue, for example. Not only does it involve both cheese and chocolate, but it offers many opportunities for licking stray molten goodness off a date's fill-in-the-blank. The Bourgeois Pig (111 E. 7th St., between First and A avenues), with its delicious food and flattering lighting, is great for concealing sticky situations.

Though oysters are not proven to increase sexual desire, they are associated with a certain Parisian glamor that goes well with coy giggles and subtle brushes of the thigh. Throw in champagne to lock out a make-out fest at dinner—perhaps at the raved-about Blue Ribbon Brasserie

(97 Sullivan St., at Spring Street).

Though picking a romantic place to eat at may seem an obvious task, it is not so simple for everyone. Whoever is choosing this V-day, first ensure that the spot is well-rated by at least a few major sites—think Yelp, Zagat, New York Magazine, and Time Out New York. Second, don't choose a place that doesn't take reservations unless both you and your date are flexible. Nothing sends sexy vibes down the drain faster than a few badly phrased comments sparked by hunger. Third, make sure the atmosphere is somewhat quiet, dim, and clean. If you ever want to see your date again, don't opt for some cute hole in the wall that turns out to be on the far side of the Bronx and doesn't have running water.

BOOZE

It's a delicate matter to find the perfect level of drunkenness—where happy energy flows freely, but the mind is not so far gone to cause slurring and flashing of nipples at bouncers. To find a happy medium, follow the high school rule: one drink per hour (I'm open-minded about this number—feel free to round it up to two) and a glass of water in between. Save the CAVA call for another night.

So what to drink? The Miller High Life, Budweiser, and Heineken that have been sitting on your heater for weeks

are not going to cut it. Nor will some cheap Rosé you bought three months ago at Morton Williams. If you're drinking in Morningside, take a walk up to Vino Fino (1250 Amsterdam Ave., at 122nd Street) and shell out that hard-earned \$15 for a nice bottle. If you're tired of the Cabs, Savs, and Merlots, impress your date with a delicious Malbec or Beaujolais.

For other drinking options, head to a great cocktail bar like Little Branch (20 Seventh Ave. S., at Leroy Street), the cheaper sibling of the famously pretentious Milk & Honey (134 Eldridge St., between Delancy and Broome streets). If you're in the mood for hipsters, check out Hotel Delmano (82 Berry St., at North Ninth Street) in Williamsburg. They serve Absinthe the old-fashioned way and don't have long waits.

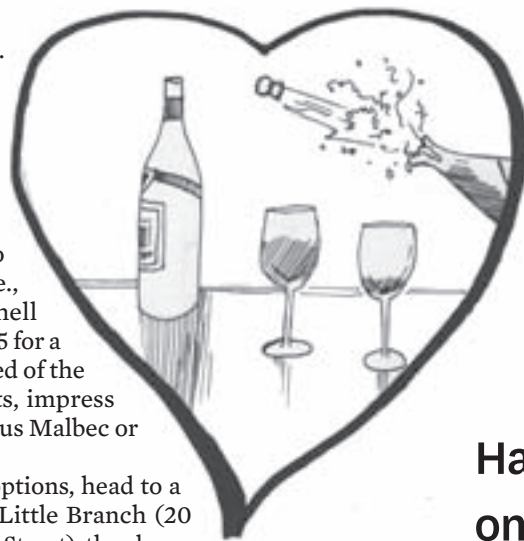
SEX

Though some may end up getting to the sex part before ever leaving the dorm, chances are food and booze will precede the dirty stuff. Make the most out of your date, turning every sip and nibble into foreplay.

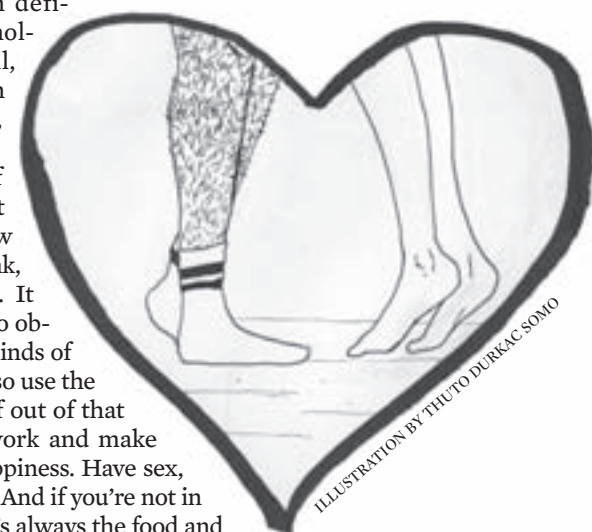
Though I'm far from an expert, I do know a few don'ts for the night: Don't—under any circumstances—go to see a movie about rape, mental demise, or murder (think “Taken” or “Black Swan”). Trust me, no one will be in an up-and-at-'em mood after that. Don't argue about the state of your relationship. And keep in mind that a first date might not be the best time to enter the anal-play zone.

Few Columbia students will be involved in a made-for-the-movies romance this weekend, but many of us can be satisfied nonetheless. No, there might not be candles and truffles, but there can definitely be hot wax and molten chocolate. After all, who cares about love in college? We've got sex, and it feels damn good.

One benefit of Valentine's Day is that it reminds people to slow down and appreciate pink, happy things. Kidding. It does give us an excuse to obnoxiously celebrate all kinds of relationships, however, so use the occasion to dig yourself out of that accumulating pile of work and make an active attempt at happiness. Have sex, go on a date, or do both. And if you're not in the mood for that, there's always the food and booze—and friends.



Have sex, go on a date, or do both. And if you're not in the mood for that, there's always the food and booze—and friends.



Best of

Alternative Valentine’s Days

Sometimes, Valentine’s Day is simply nauseating, like a guy in a crowded subway wearing too much cologne that somehow still doesn’t mask his B.O. In truth, Valentine’s Day isn’t about putting on the schmaltz, but about quality time with awesome people. The following are things to do on Valentines’ Day that might actually be fun. —BY LUCY SUN

Best Opportunity to Talk Nerdy

The best remedy for a broken heart is watching a robot beat Jeopardy champion after Jeopardy champion. The second best remedy is candy, and Columbia’s Association for Computing Machinery offers both at its special viewing of Jeopardy, featuring IBM’s Watson in Lerner’s Broadway Room on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. Plus, nerds are hot, and this event is bound to be full of them. Jilted lovers would be wise to attend, fall into the arms of lovers far nerdier and therefore far superior to the ones they had before, and talk nerdy into the night about the scientific frontier of robots learning to emote.



Best Second Chance

With poems and a pop-up art installation inspired by Craigslist’s Missed Connections, the New York Transit Museum (at Boerum Place and Schermerhorn Street) Valentine’s Day event is just adorable. In light of the elephantine number of times that a subway transfer has dashed hopes for budding romance, the Missed Connections stories are bound to redefine romantic comedy. Refreshments provided by Brooklyn Brewery and 5th Avenue Chocolatiere will save hopeless romantics the trouble of all the subway transfers normally required to bring those delicious delicacies together. RSVP requested but not required for the Feb. 14 event, which will run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Best Romantic Dinner for Cheeseburgers in Love

Apparently Valentine’s Day at White Castle is a thing because reservations are necessary. The fast-food chain’s Valentine’s Day special promises a candlelit dinner of 10 sliders, two sodas, and French fries. This may be the perfect dinner for a couple who wants to have a Valentine’s Day dinner but doesn’t feel like going through all the usual froufrou. To avoid being dumped on Feb. 15, cheeseburgers in love should suss out just how not-froufrou their partners want to be on Valentine’s Day before actually going on this date. Beyond that, the White Castle couple should prepare a set of iron stomachs. Indigestion is not sexy.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JIIN CHOI



CAROL KIM FOR SPECTATOR

CUBIC FOOT | Janelle Fung’s Shopping Box on Broome Street brings a niche Asian boutique idea to New York—the store is composed of rentable boxes in which diverse merchants display their wares.

Chinatown concept store thinks outside the box with 1’-by-1’ cubes available for vendors to rent

BY KAVITHA SURANA
Spectator Staff Writer

Tucked away on a quiet stretch of Broome Street between SoHo and Chinatown, a new store introduces a shopping concept already popular in China and Japan to New York. Marketed as “New York’s first cube store,” the Shopping Box (360 Broome St.) is slowly making its mark in a city of niche consumers and creative vendors. The owner of the Shopping Box, Hong Kong native Janelle Fung, doesn’t sell any products herself—she sells space. The shop is covered with boxed-in shelves—white cubes waiting to be filled with wacky merchandise. For as little as \$1.66 a day (and as much as \$7 a day for a prime window location) sellers can rent out a one-foot-by-one-foot cube in the store and fill it with whatever they wish to peddle. These miniature storefronts advertise a dizzying array of products. Some cube-boutiques are stuffed to the gills with homemade jewelry, while others feature a single premium product, such as a \$400

Gucci handbag. Anything goes. There is even a cube covered with XXX signs, announcing the box’s erotic wares. A more innocent cube showcases scratch-’n’-sniff T-shirts.

“The longer you rent, the cheaper it is. ... It’s a great way for people to get started with a low budget.”
—Janelle Fung, owner of Shopping Box

Located on the edge of Chinatown, the Shopping Box encounters plenty of people from Asia already familiar with the concept. It also seems that the majority of the cubes feature Asian products—from Taiwanese facial products to Chinese knick-knacks.

Yet it’s not hard to imagine that a concept store like this could eventually have wider appeal to the denizens of New York once the word gets out. Brooklynites riding the DIY craze could generate a following for homemade jams or unique handcrafted soaps with a shopping box, and entrepreneurial students could test the waters of their sales ideas without a big investment. “The longer you rent, the cheaper it is,” said Fung. “It’s a great way for people to get started with a low budget.” Alice Zhang, CC ’12 and a student entrepreneur who co-founded JAZ Jewelry Collections, initially contemplated the idea of selling her designs at an upscale version of the Shopping Box. For \$1,800 a month, she could rent out a cube at a sample retail store frequented by buyers from Vogue and Elle looking for the next hot designer. The up-front cost proved too high for her budding business, and she went in a different direction, now selling in former Project Runway competitor Emmett McCarthy’s store (240 Elizabeth St.). She sees opportunity for young businesses

in experimenting with a low-cost cube store like the Shopping Box, though. “I think it’s a good idea because in the beginning you don’t have a big marketing background to price the product,” Zhang said. “Something like the Shopping Box would be a great way to try it out and find out price points and which products are more popular. ... If, out of 10 products, two sell real well, you might want to focus more on those products.” The Shopping Box has been open for seven months, and Fung said that while it’s too early to truly track the progress of her vendors, she has seen early signs of success. “I have a guy who sells thousands of dollars worth of wooden-frame glasses from Japan every month,” she said. While most students may not be inclined to rent out a cube, the Shopping Box is still worth a visit simply to peruse an unconventional assortment of products—whether in need of false eyelashes or a vintage pair of Dior heels, the Shopping Box just might have what you didn’t know you were looking for.



CAR CRASH | Ricardo Darín as Sosa and Martina Gusman as Luján are the leads in Pablo Trapero’s latest film, ‘Carancho.’ An unexpected romance grows between carancho Sosa and nurse Luján, who serve on opposite sides of the car accident exploitation industry, a real problem in modern Argentina.

Argentinean Oscar pick, ‘Carancho,’ crashes onto the film scene

BY ALEXIS NELSON
Columbia Daily Spectator

“Carancho” opens with discordant music and jarring still-frames of a car crash. The audience is immediately bombarded with the violence that propels the rest of the film. Opening Friday, Feb. 11 at the Angelika Film Center (18 W. Houston St., at Mercer Street), “Carancho” is acclaimed director Pablo Trapero’s latest film and serves as Argentina’s official selection for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. It also appeared at the 2010 Cannes and Toronto Film Festivals.

The film’s plot revolves around the phenomenon of crash-victim profiteering. In Argentina, over 8,000 people are killed and 100,000 are injured each year in car accidents. These staggering figures have engendered an entire moneymaking industry that exploits legal loopholes and insurance company payouts from casualties. A “carancho,” which means vulture in Spanish, is an opportunist who rushes to crash scenes and hospitals, looking to latch onto victims and derive profit.

Ricardo Darín—star of “The Secret in Their Eyes,” the 2009 Academy Award winner for Best

Foreign Language Film—plays a carancho named Sosa. He is a license-less lawyer now working for the “Foundation.” This firm ostensibly helps car accident victims achieve compensation from their insurance companies. But in reality, Sosa and his co-workers pocket most of the settlements.

A “carancho,” which means vulture in Spanish, is an opportunist who rushes to crash scenes and hospitals, looking to latch onto victims and derive profit.

World-weary and hardened by his work, Sosa has moral qualms about his role in the industry and starts looking for an out. He meets a young medic named Luján (Martina Gusman), exhausted by her shifts responding to grizzly accidents.

The trajectory of their tempestuous romance is tangled in the brutality of the underground world of caranchos, who manipulate and exploit car crashes—sometimes even staging them. The somber intensity of the entire film permeates their relationship. There are few moments of levity.

Darín and Gusman rise to the acting challenge presented by two such desperate, raw characters. Even Gusman’s character, Luján, has a secret darkness and self-sabotaging nature. Both actors give compelling performances that capture the immediacy of the film’s plot. Gusman’s acting is particularly riveting and poignant, adeptly conveying her character’s melancholy.

The film avoids any wince-worthy or cheesy neatness, yet it can seem as if Trapero is trying too hard for shock value. There is little redemption or compensatory hope offered by the film. The movie’s over-enthusiastic endeavor to avoid brightness may become tiring for audiences and make it difficult for them to become attached to the characters or to the plot.

Nevertheless, “Carancho” is compelling and admirably blunt in its violent portrayal of a gruesome industry. It launches viewers into this particular underworld—one that has attained startling sway in Argentina.

BC alum offers example to art history majors, turns own apartment into indie art gallery

BY RUBII PHAM
Columbia Daily Spectator

With major-declaration time fast approaching, Piper Marshall, BC ’07, stands as a testament that art history students can experience real-world success. Aside from her day job as assistant curator at the Swiss Institute, she also,



MARIA CASTEX / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ART TALKS | Piper Marshall, BC ’07, works as an assistant curator at the Swiss Institute and until recently operated an art gallery, Three’s Company.

until recently, operated an independent gallery directly out of her apartment—Three’s Company.

Marshall added that it was an “apartment gallery that I used to run with my former roommate, Alex Gartenfeld, CC ’08, who actually founded the Eye.”

Explaining how the gallery got its start, Marshall said, “We had this private joke: we had nothing on our walls, and we had all of these artist friends—it made sense for us to show our contemporaries in this very small, domestic setting.”

The first show in this quirky pop-up gallery spotlighted artists such as Richard Aldrich and Lisa Tan. “We tried to integrate it with the architecture of the space, so Lisa Tan’s video we showed above my bed, which was so crazy,” Marshall said. “We put the projector on the bed-and-breakfast tray, and we projected it above my bed.”

What was it like turning their living area into a public space for art and conversation? Marshall said, “We were also very interested in trying to facilitate conversation, and we thought well, what’s the best place to you to have a conversation? Someone’s couch in their living room.”

“However,” Marshall continued with a chuckle, “it kind of enforced typical roommate problems, like we had to keep our apartment clean because we always had these people coming over.”

Even though she speaks enthusiastically about her projects, Marshall had not considered art to be a viable career option until she received her first introduction to art history through a course taught by Barnard professor Patricio Moxey.

Marshall and Gartenfeld wanted the gallery to resemble an art experience in Europe. “There’s an appreciation for visual art in Switzerland that surpasses [what exists here],” Marshall said. “For instance, I could talk to my best friend’s parents—they’re professionals, they’re doctors—and they’ve seen almost every single show within a two-hour radius within the country ... whereas my parents ... don’t have the same appreciation.”

Marshall offers advice to those interested in pursuing the arts, which she recognizes can be a difficult road: “I know it’s not really the most desirable situation to not be paid for your labor, but if you’re in school and you have a few extra hours in your day, you might as well intern and get some experience.”

‘Legacy’ exhibits contemporary art for all audience types

BY KATHERINE BERGSTROM
Columbia Daily Spectator

Upon entering the fourth floor gallery of the Whitney Museum of American Art (945 Madison Ave., between 74th and 75th streets), a fiery canvas bearing the phrase “The Act of Letting a Person Into Your Home” comes into immediate view. With its new exhibition, “Legacy: The Emily Fisher Landau Collection,” which is on display until May 1, the Whitney Museum has taken this idea and done exactly that—invited visitors into the hearts and minds of a myriad of 20th-century American artists.

Containing over 400 works, the Legacy exhibit offers a prolific collection of minimalist, post-war, and contemporary art. A gift of long-time museum trustee Emily Fisher Landau, the collection also covers a broad spectrum of medium and content. Ranging from anti-war sculptures to paintings depicting the omnipresence of AIDS, the exhibition contains works from artists like Jasper Johns, Peter Hujar, and Andy Warhol, as well as many other contemporary artists popularized in New York City’s art scene during the 1960s and 1970s.

Rather than the fame of any individual piece, the accessibility of the collection as a whole is most appealing. Contemporary art can be a perilous field. Unlike more antiquated periods of art, in which the subjects of works are easily identifiable to the viewer, contemporary art often leaves at least some of these features open for interpretation. While this ambiguity could be problematic for the unfamiliar viewer, the potential conflict is gracefully averted in the “Legacy” collection. Even the most strikingly minimalist works, like Carl Andre’s 28 Lead Rectangle, are still agreeable to diverse audiences.

The appeal to its viewers’ various levels of contemporary art fluency is what makes the “Legacy” collection so conceptually available. Inviting viewers to find their own meaning in the works, the collection raises many questions critical to the modern American paradigm on such varied topics as racism and patriotism. This relevancy to the viewer’s life makes the exhibit both worthy of acclaim and incredibly comprehensive.

Pandora’s ‘Box’ of fun outside the CU village

New York clichés abound, but it is not just a metropolis, or a whirlwind, or an adventure. New York is an entire way of life—distant at times, but always cajoling, beckoning, slipping its hand slowly down your pants until suddenly, unexpectedly, it has your balls in a grip so tight that you can’t help but follow along. This city pulls me toward places I never knew existed.

It’s easy to get stuck in the Columbia village. We’ve got everything we need, really, but there’s still something refreshing about getting dressed up, getting on the subway, and getting the fuck out of here. As scary as it can seem to the little Sydney boy I am, I like exploring the city.

Last week, I felt the firm genital tug of a new adventure calling. It took me all the way to Alphabet City, all the way to The Box (189 Christie St., between Rivington and Stanton streets). The Box calls itself a “theatre of varieties.”

“It’s crazy. I used to go there pretty much every weekend,” my friend Carla told me beforehand. “The things I’ve seen... You can’t even imagine. They have shows.”

“What kind of shows?” I asked with all the naivety of a New York debutant.

“Just come, it’ll be fun.”

Part lounge, part bar, part dreamland, the Box is all velour and velvet, a red-curtained stage framed with spiral stairs and ornate banisters. It has a gaggle of tables, a couple of bars, a mezzanine, and a DJ playing suitably trendy retro hits, presumably on vinyl. The place looks amazing.



KEMBLE
WALKER

**Restless
Nights**

With all the fanfare of kitsch cabaret, the music faded, the lights dimmed, the curtain opened on three rather naked dancers. Next up, a naked trapeze routine.

But the crowd was a little off-putting, a mixture of precocious scenesters, financial workers, and amateur prostitutes dripping in newly acquired gold. I only knew a couple of people in our group so I was a little awkward, feeling slightly underdressed and finding it hard to socialize in such a loud and exclusive environment. The first words one of these new acquaintances said to me: “Oh yeah, I’ve slept with all of the girls here.”

Right. Pleased to meet you. Luckily, bottles of vodka kept appearing at our table, brought by sparkly girls with glittering smiles. Feeling uncomfortable and with an hour still to wait for the show, I started drinking heavily.

Several bottles later—with all the fanfare of kitsch cabaret—the music faded, the lights dimmed, the curtain opened on three rather naked dancers. Next up, a naked trapeze routine and an oversized Russian (also naked) playing with hula hoops.

The MC took center stage as the curtains closed. Coming up, she told us, was the main act—the one we’d all been waiting for. The lights dimmed, and it began.

On stage was a man in period costume lying invitingly on a chaise longue, stroking his inner thigh with a wad of cash. Then came Frieda, a square-jawed transvestite complete with bared breasts and prominent penis, who put on a ridiculous display that culminated in pulling a painfully oversized tampon out of his ass.

I guess it was shocking. I can’t say I’ve ever seen that before. But was it interesting, or even fun?

It didn’t occur to me until afterwards, but someone must have been paying thousands of dollars to booze up our table full of people. And who was this person, Frieda, pinned and wriggling on the wall? Everyone leered, too drunk to do anything but gawk and snigger. The real show consisted of the superficial glitz and artificial ditz, cash-strapped ladies, and Wall Street traders.

We rolled out a few hours later and took a bumpy cab back uptown. I was feeling rough, and we pulled up at 116th just in time for me to run outside and make a mess on the snow. (Apologies to early morning HamDel patrons.)

Feeling bedraggled and sorry for myself, I couldn’t have been happier to stumble onto College Walk. Back home, I thought. Back in the village. As I felt the city loosen its grip, I felt a bit ashamed for having gone along with it.

Was it the lecherous debauchery of the night that made me feel so ill? If only. I think it was just the vodka.

I smiled at Carla as we said good night. Together, we had had a good time.

Kemble Walker is a Columbia College freshman. Restless Nights runs alternate Fridays.



Check out our Flipside Guide for arts and film▶

Flipside

Guide

‘Picasso: Guitars 1912-1914’

MoMA’s latest exhibit strikes a chord with fans of the cubist master

BY APRIL KELLY
Columbia Daily Spectator

The hallway walls leading into MoMA’s “Picasso: Guitars 1912-1914” exhibit are lined with quotes from Picasso’s contemporaries, expressing concern that his particular style of work would not be enduring despite its apparent ingenuity. However, upon entering the gallery, it is obvious that this is not true—there is something about Picasso that will always endure.

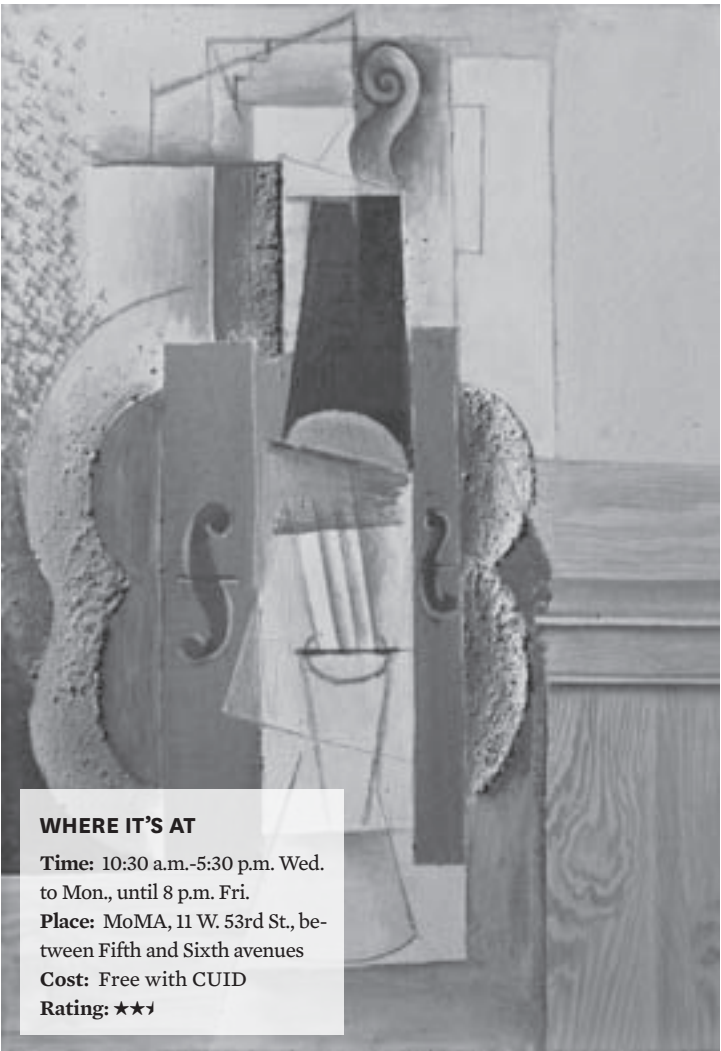
A sculpted cardboard “Still Life with Guitar: Variant State” stands immediately inside the gallery doors as the epitome of Picasso’s sculptural experimentation—an aspect of the artist’s work that the exhibit displays fantastically. This sculpture, made of flimsy material, was one of the works that was not supposed to last. It guides the viewer into an exploration of Picasso’s creativity, centered around the theme of the guitar.

Showing a combination of sketches, sculptures, and collages, the exhibit surprisingly manages to keep things interesting, despite the specificity of the theme. There is a mix between the subdued and the colorful, the simple and the complex, and the flat and the sculptural. The discerning viewer will uncover fascinating subtleties in the progression of Picasso’s work from the time period without getting lost in the vastness of Picasso’s range of artistic styles and experiments. Some of the pieces are more conventional representations, while others show his experimentation with materials like newspaper clippings, dirt, and wallpaper.

One of the most captivating aspects of the exhibit is one that is all too easy to miss. Tucked away in a corner, nearly hidden from view, is a digital kiosk that allows viewers to scroll through a virtual representation of one of Picasso’s sketchbooks. It is certainly worth flipping through the pages for a few minutes to get a glimpse into the creative process of such a celebrated artist—then to wander the gallery and see the fruits of his labor, delineated directly from page to the canvas.

The sketchbook also marvelously contextualizes Picasso’s progressive style of depicting guitars, even showing photographs of his studio and the art works in his original arrangements. The cardboard guitar at the entrance of the exhibit is also shown in photographs in an adjacent case. Here, the piece is surrounded by still life elements in the artist’s studio at the time of its creation. This then-and-now arrangement lends a historical angle to the piece and stands—just like the exhibit itself—as a tribute to Picasso’s lasting artistic triumph.

Flipside Guide Art reviews are evaluated for: concept, originality, execution, curation, student relatability to the artwork, exhibition price, and accessibility.



COURTESY OF MOMA

STRING THEORY | Guitar-centric pieces, including sketches and sculptures, from Picasso’s 1912-1914 repertoire are on view at MoMA.

events

ART

Outsider Art Fair

—7 W. 34th St. (between Fifth and Sixth avenues), through Sunday, Feb. 13, free.

An annual gathering of 38 dealers representing a wildly diverse group of artists, this year’s fair will include the intricate drawings of longtime mental patient Martin Ramirez and the whimsical notebook doodles of Pearl Blauvelt, considered a village witch in rural Pennsylvania.

MUSIC

Don Giovanni Records Showcase

—Music Hall of Williamsburg, 66 N. 6th St. (between Kent and Wythe avenues), Saturday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m., \$10.

An annual show for the bands of Don Giovanni Records—a punk rock label based in New Brunswick, N.J.—is the perfect opportunity to catch the ferocious, increasingly hyped trio Screaming Females, preceded by Shellshag, Laura Stevenson and the Cans, Lemuria, and Byrds of Paradise.

BOOKS

Slam on Love & Heartbreak

—92Y Tribeca, 200 Hudson St. (between Vestry and Desbrosses streets), Monday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m., \$10.

Half a dozen prominent writers and SMITH contributors will converge to present “Married by Elvis. Divorced by Friday: A Six-Word Memoir Story Slam on Love & Heartbreak.” The single-sentence tales of romance will be accompanied by musician Michael Hurst, on hand to turn the memoirs into songs.

FILM

Susan Sarandon Festival

—BAM Rose Cinemas, 30 Lafayette Ave. (at Ashland Place), Sunday, Feb. 13, 4:30 p.m., \$15.

A week-long retrospective of Sarandon’s film career culminates Sunday afternoon when all four BAM screens will simultaneously play her movies “Atlantic City,” “Bull Durham,” “Thelma and Louise,” and “Dead Man Walking”. Followed by a conversation at 7 p.m. with Sarandon and Bob Balaban.



COURTESY OF PARK CIRCUS

ALL ABOARD | Humphrey Bogart (left) and Katherine Hepburn (right) play a couple in this wartime movie set in East Africa.

‘The African Queen’

Film Forum celebrates the classic’s 60th anniversary with new restoration

BY ELIZA ROSEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Long before transforming cars, Zac Efron’s pout, and the venture into the third dimension, films were revered not for their special effects, but for their compelling stories and solid acting. A new restoration of “The African Queen,” one of cinema’s great masterpieces, starts a one-week run at Film Forum today, Feb. 11.

“The African Queen” premiered in 1951 and stars two of the most iconic actors of the era—Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn. Directed by screen legend John Huston, the film tells the story of British missionary Rose Sayer (Hepburn) and rough-and-tumble riverboat captain Charlie Allnut (Bogart) in East Africa at the beginning of World War I. After the German invasion, there is no choice but to flee the area and the only way to reach the British side is via a dangerous river that flows into a German-warship-guarded lake. Rose convinces Charlie to partake in the journey on his beloved boat the African Queen, helping to destroy the German warship with man-made torpedoes along the way. Like any good story, these entirely opposite characters soon seek companionship in each other on the lonely and perilous journey.

Hepburn and Bogart’s combined star power is what makes the film a classic. Hepburn’s turn as the strong-willed Rose would put

a smile on any feminist’s face, while Bogart’s laissez-faire portrayal of the mechanical boat captain helps balance Hepburn’s stubbornness. Their on-screen chemistry is what keeps the viewer watching, even eliciting a few laughs.

The plot and acting carry the film, but the background shots and setting help make it shine. The film was shot in Africa, and renowned cinematographer Jack Cardiff captures the wildlife in many scenes. The film takes place almost completely on the boat, so interspersed shots of giraffes and hippos liven things up. The newly restored Technicolor further enhances these shots of nature.

Another entertaining aspect of the film is Allan Gray’s musical score. It completes the story line and emphasizes Hepburn and Bogart’s every emotion.

Watching the film is a real treat, since it allows viewers to venture back to a time when cinema wasn’t just about grabbing attention, but about capturing the viewer’s mind and heart. Even though the film doesn’t contain mind-blowing special effects or 3D glasses, it enraptures the viewer because it has everything a classic movie needs—drama, comedy, and romance.

Flipside Guide Film reviews are evaluated for: storyline, quality of acting, originality, production value/spectacle, composition, and student interest.

‘Orgasm Inc.’

Canner’s documentary spreads the legs of the pharmaceutical world wide open

BY LILY GRAHAM
Columbia Daily Spectator

After Viagra’s immense success showed that reducing complexities of human sexuality to a disease-cure model can be lucrative, the pharmaceutical industry shot off in pursuit of the elusive female orgasm. But before they could market a cure, they needed a disease. Accordingly, the Journal of the American Medical Association announced that 43 percent of women suffer from female sexual dysfunction. The new documentary “Orgasm Inc.”—which opens at the Quad Cinema on Friday, Feb. 11—tracks not only the search for FSD’s antidote, but the invention of the illness itself.

Director Liz Canner began “Orgasm Inc.” after a decade of documenting poverty, genocide, and police brutality. As Canner stated in an introduction prior to the film screening, such brutal images eventually caused her to have nightmares and a healthy dose of depression. So, she decided to turn her attention—and her camera—toward the science of female sexuality.

While working on an early version of what was to become “Orgasm Inc.,” Canner was offered a job editing erotic videos to be used during trials at a company developing an orgasm cream. This work granted her access to the world of orgasm manufacturing and an insider’s perspective of the pharmaceutical mechanism that is shown through “Orgasm Inc.”

FSD has been welcomed into the hyperactive diagnostic landscape because it consolidates the manifold issues that might lead to female sexual problems. Its corresponding treatment has not found the same luck. “Orgasm Inc.” surveys the always futile and frequently frightening developments in the pharmacological and technological race toward an FSD remedy. These include off-label prescriptions of Viagra, hormone patches, and a potentially fatal form of designer genital mutilation. One woman in the documentary even has electrodes surgically implanted in her spine. The horror of the graphic footage is tempered only by its ironic resemblance to a similarly-named device—the Orgasmatron—depicted in Woody Allen’s sci-fi parody “Sleeper.”



COURTESY OF FIRST RUN FEATURES

ORGASMIC | Documentary ‘Orgasm Inc.’ delves into the nitty-gritty of the industry behind FSD, or female sexual dysfunction.

Canner’s work engages the medicalization of female sexuality and aims at untangling all that has been consolidated beneath the FSD rubric. Within one film, Canner is able to tackle an impressive array of issues. In addition to reporting on the corruption of the pharmaceutical industry, she analyzes cultural beliefs about what female sexuality is and should be.

“Orgasm Inc.” shows film’s potential to offer a deeper look at phenomena generally taken for granted and to see how absurd and truly tragic they are. It is a propaganda film in its own right, but its assumptions offer a useful counterpoint to the ubiquitous articulations of the pharmaceutical industry.

Flipside Guide Film reviews are evaluated for: storyline, quality of acting, originality, production value/spectacle, composition, and student interest.